

Housing Newsletter



Wiesbaden: Your Home in Germany!



Housing Chief's Corner

USAG Wiesbaden like many communities in Europe is going through transformation at a rapid pace. You need to only look around at one of the numerous construction sites and you understand what I am talking about. Clay Kaserne and the housing areas are a bee hive of activity; you can see change taking place right in front of your eyes. Because of this numerous questions or rumors arise throughout the community concerning housing projects and housing availability.

Therefore, the Housing Office has developed the "Housing Newsletter". The Housing Newsletter will be published electronically on a monthly basis, providing another venue to keep housing residents informed. While simultaneously providing useful information to arriving and departing Soldiers, civilians, and families living in, coming to or departing USAG Wiesbaden.

The Housing Newsletter will cover a large spectrum of topics such as USAREUR transformation, housing regulations and policy, frequently asked housing questions, housing construction projects, furnishings and appliances, as well as hot housing topics in the community.

The Housing Office understands that customer service is a top priority and that taking care of Soldiers and their families is our number one job. Moreover, as the Army Family Covenant states "we want to provide Soldiers and families housing that is consummate to their level of service to our nation." The Housing Newsletter is another platform that the Housing Office will use to keep residents informed of ongoing events, changes and projects. Moreover, it will be used as platform to get feedback from residents. Your feedback and concerns are important to us and we look forward to hearing from you.

Residents can request to be placed on the electronic distribution list for the Housing Newsletter or can provide comments or concerns at the following email address:

usarmy.wiesbaden.imcom-europe.list.newsletter@mail.mil

We look forward to hearing from you.

Newman Village Housing Area



Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date: October 2012

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Special points of interest:

- Pet Policy
- Satellite Playground on Clay Kaserne
- Planned Projects
- Energy Awareness Month

Construction Projects



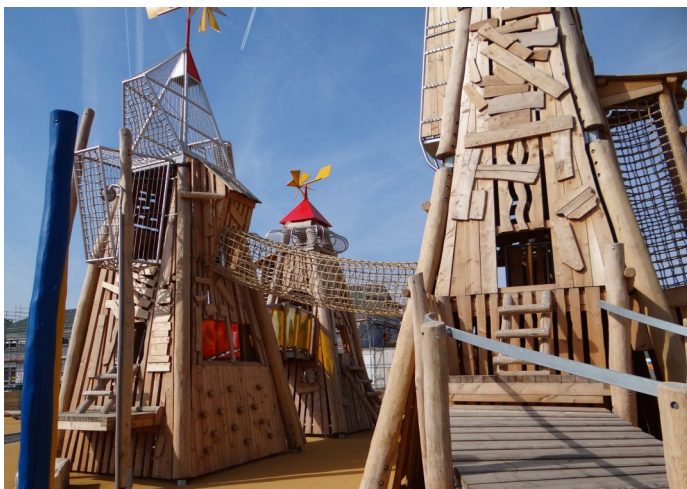
Completed Projects



Satellite City one of only six interactive playgrounds in Germany !

When you think high tech computer equipment, playgrounds normally don't come to mind. However, USAG Wiesbaden has one of only 6 playgrounds in Germany that fits this category. Kamphausen and Kamphausen, landscape architects and environmental planning consultants, designed several playgrounds for the different housing areas in Wiesbaden during 2010 and 2011. Each playground was given a special topic or theme giving them a personal touch. The themes are based on the size, and age of children.

The playground on Clay Kaserne near South ACP has the theme "Satellite City and Fairy Tale". Different play equipment was selected from a wide range of materials and products available meeting safety regulations, form, and design criteria. Satellite City was designed and equipped for school kids, with the fairy tale section, for toddlers ICON Space, Nova and Swirl are some of the most modern and high tech play equipment to be found and are installed on this playground. A digital game server is connected to a satellite and "plays with the kids" bringing friendly competition to the playground. The ICON equipment uses technology combines the excitement of digital gaming with outdoor playgrounds to get kids back outside instead of sitting around the house. ICON is designed to get players moving using a digital platform that kids normally understand. Kids can create teams to compete against each other enhancing social interaction or they can race against the clock to improve their personal scores pushing their physical limits. These games challenge a players' coordination, focus and stamina while increasing the fun on the playground. This high technology equipment ICON has only been installed 6 times in



Germany as well as only 45 times in Western European countries. However, with all of this being said, what it really means is hours of endless fun for kids.

In addition to the completion of the Satellite playground on Clay Kaserne, the playgrounds in Newman Village are now open for children to play on. The playgrounds were blocked off for a couple of months after the opening of the housing area until final construction deficiencies were corrected. These deficiencies have now been corrected and the playgrounds are now open for play. Have Fun !!!!

Newman Village Castle Playground

On Going Projects

Residents cannot drive through Hainerberg Housing Area without seeing some type of construction taking place. One of the biggest projects in this housing area is the “Seal Basement” project. This project was designed to stop water intrusion through the basement walls of 28 Family housing buildings. This project is currently in various stages of construction, with the last buildings just being started, some midway through construction, while others have been completed.

In order to seal the basements correctly to stop the water intrusion several steps were taken including insulating and sealing the foundation walls. Another portion of the project required the installation of a catch basin and



drainage lines. The catch basins captures run off water from around the house and then directs it back into the ground water or storm sewer system. The final step in the project is the installation of new walkways to the house and the grounds maintenance work to return the yards back to a normal state.



The housing office understands that this project has placed demands on residents for parking, access to their buildings and increased noise and dirt. We apologize for these inconveniences and we are working to get the project completed as quickly as possible.



Planned Projects

Based on proactive planning and attention to detail the Housing Facilities Branch was able to capture over 6 million dollars in additional end of year funds for housing renovation projects. The following projects will be funded with these end of year funds:

- * Replacement of 56 trash condos in Aukamm and Hainerberg.
- * Repair of roofs, balconies and painting of building exteriors for 18 buildings in Crestview. (Buildings 7006, 7008, 7009, 7010, 7024, 7029, 7030, 7031, 7032, 7033, 7034, 7035, 7036, 7037, 7038, 7039, 7063, 7065) are being scheduled for this work.
- * Renovation of bathrooms and kitchens in Building 7016, Crestview

Residents affected by these projects will be notified by the Housing Office of the start date and duration of the projects once construction plans and timelines have been finalized.





Frequently Asked Questions from Residents

Who is eligible for on-post Family housing?

Military personnel with accompanying command sponsored dependents, Key and Essential DOD civilians, and unmarried chaplains and unaccompanied married chaplains.

Is Newman Village Housing Area only for officers or people moving from Heidelberg and Mannheim?

Newman Village Housing Area is for all grades from Private (E-1) to General Officer. Over 50 percent of Newman Village has been designated for Junior Enlisted Soldiers in the grades of E-1 through E6. The housing area is open for all service members and their families and is not held for a specific group. Housing assignments are based on the sponsor's eligibility date, availability of quarters at time of assignment and special assignment criteria; such as EFMP needs.

Will I be offered an assignment in Newman Village?

In accordance with AR 420-1, AE Supplement 1 to AR 420-1, USAREUR and Wiesbaden housing policy letters, housing assignments are made based on the sponsor's rank, eligibility date for housing, total number of command sponsored dependents on their orders, availability of quarters at time of assignment and special assignment criteria; such as EFMP needs. Newman Village makes up approximately 20 percent of Wiesbaden's on-post housing inventory. Therefore, the housing office cannot guarantee you an assignment to Newman Village. The housing office will make housing offers for assignment based on the availability of quarters in the service members housing category and bedroom requirement at the time of offer.

Please review Wiesbaden policy letter number 13 on the Garrison Website at the following address:

http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/commander/cp_overview.asp

How can a Service Member obtain a Certificate of Non-availability (CNA)?

USAG Wiesbaden will assign 100% of service members in grades E1 through E4 to on-post Army Family Housing (AFH). If AFH is not projected to be available for Soldiers in the grades of E5 and above within 60 days, the service member will automatically be issued Certificate of Non-Availability (CNA) to seek off-post private rental housing (PRH). Service members in the grades of E1-E4 will automatically be issued a CNA if housing availability is projected to exceed 90 days. The remaining Government-controlled housing will be allocated to house a target of at least 10 percent of the population of E5s and above (including officers) within each designated pay-grade as defined in the USAREUR policy and AR 420-1. Accompanied service members in the grade of E5 and above (including officers) will be offered on-post AFH if available. See garrison policy letter number 13.

A loaner furniture policy exists; as a military member, what loaner furniture items can I use from the furniture warehouse?

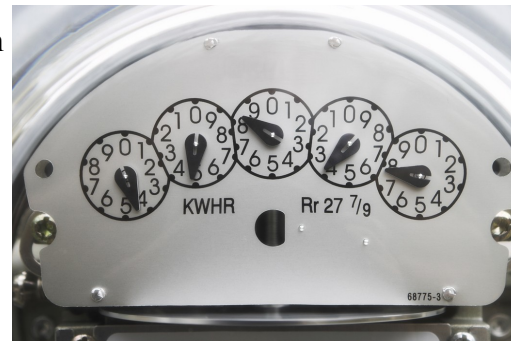
For military members residing in government quarters, supplemental sets of furniture are available on a loaner basis for up to 90 days (arriving; 60 days departing) to allow time for delivery (shipment) of your household goods (HHG). For military and civilian members residing in the civilian community, wardrobes (one per dependent and an additional one for the apartment), refrigerators, washers, and dryers can be supplied for the entire tour of duty. Customers are provided one free delivery and pick-up at both incoming and outgoing stages.

Hot Topics

October is Energy Awareness Month!

Energy awareness is about understanding that all day and night we're using energy in our houses and facilities and energy is expensive (especially in Europe!). Some things we do use a lot more energy than others like running washing machines and dishwashers. Simple changes in our habits can lead to big reductions in our energy consumption which in turn is better for our environment and pocket books. Here are a few tips to reduce energy and water consumption!

- Close windows and doors during winter months
- Open the blinds to allow the sunshine to naturally heat the room
- Turn off radiators when rooms are unoccupied
- Take a shower instead of a bath
- Don't leave the water running when you are brushing your teeth
- Report leaks and dripping pipes immediately
- Do not wash your dishes under running water
- Always use the energy savings programs on Washers / Dryers and Dishwashers
- Start the Washers / Dryers / Dishwashers only when completely loaded
- Turn off interior/ exterior lights and electrical devices (Computers, Monitors, Printers, Audio/TV, wall chargers) if not needed
- Unplug unused electrical devices in storage areas (i.e. refrigerators, freezers)



To learn more about energy conservation please visit the energy awareness portion of our Garrison Wiesbaden website at <http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/local/energy.asp>.

Energy Awareness Month "October"

Things you can do to make a difference!

- Close windows and doors during winter months
- Open the blinds to allow the sunshine to naturally heat the room
- Turn off radiators when rooms are unoccupied
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- Don't leave the water running when you are brushing your teeth
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- Turn off interior/ exterior lights and electrical devices (Computers, Monitors, Printers, Audio/TV, wall chargers) if not needed
- Unplug unused electrical devices in storage areas (i.e. refrigerators, freezers)
- Switch to compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) and solid state lights (SSLs), available at Self Help Bldg. 746
- Look for the ENERGY STAR Label when purchasing new appliances
- Avoid the use of portable electrical space heaters
- Report unoccupied facilities to DPW for shut down of lighting / electrical devices
- Combine trips, share rides, use mass transit
- Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

Housing Regulations and Policy

In this first Housing Newsletter I wanted to address a policy that the housing office receives the most interaction and questions on from residents living in on-post housing. The Garrison Policy Letter I am referring to is number 15, the "Pet Policy". This policy applies to all military and civilian personnel assigned to or visiting the USAG Wiesbaden community. Pet ownership brings great joy to many people in our community. It also brings along several responsibilities. These include keeping your pet on a leash, keeping pets 50 feet away from all playgrounds, removing pet excrement from yards, sidewalks, and building areas. Failure to control your pet or follow the Garrison Policy can in some cases have a significant impact on the owner; which in some instances could include loss of pet privileges.



To find out more about the Garrison's Pet Policy please go to the following link: http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil/sites/commander/cp_overview.asp



Transformation

One of the biggest transformation concerns coming from Soldiers and families is the recent directive released by USAG Baden Wuerttemberg. This directive requires all Soldiers and families of units relocating to Wiesbaden, to be moved to Wiesbaden by 31 August 2013. This directive has raised numerous questions from residents in Heidelberg and Wiesbaden concerning the availability of housing in our community.

As old cavalry Soldiers say "Steady in the Saddle". The Garrison Transformation Stationing and Management Office along with the Housing Office have done several analysis to project the number of Soldiers, civilians and family members moving to Wiesbaden; as part of transformation. Based on these analyses, the garrison has more than enough on-post and off-post housing to meet the housing demands for the community.

Coordination and dialog with the Housing Office is paramount in making a smooth transition to the Wiesbaden community. Once a Soldier or civilian employee receives their orders to Wiesbaden, they should contact the Wiesbaden Housing Office before clearing on-post quarters or terminating any rental contracts at their current duty station. The Housing Office will go over in-processing procedures and place Soldiers on the waiting list for quarters. Civilians will be in-processed and placed with the Housing Service Office to start the procedures for obtaining off-post quarters.

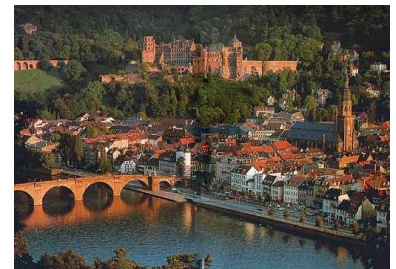
PET Questions

Question: How many pets can I have in on-post housing?

Answer: Two (2) , either two dogs , two cats or a dog and a cat. Permission to have more than to pets must be requested in writing through the housing office.

Question: Can I have exotic pets?

Answer: No, barnyard animals or exotic pets, such as snakes, lizards and tarantulas are prohibited.



Heidelberg castle and bridge

Contact the Housing Office

Hours of operation On-Post:

Monday to Thursday: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday, U.S. holidays: Closed
German Holidays: Limited Service
Tel. DSN/CIV: 337-7058 / (0611) 705-7058

Hours of operation Off-Post:

Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday: By appointment only
Sunday, German Holidays: Closed
Tel. DSN: 337-7059 or 337-5495;
Civ: (0611) 705-7059 or (0611) 1746-393

Inside the next issue

- *Temporary Lodging Allowance*
- *Trash collection and recycling*
- *How housing assignments are made*
- *Transferring furnishings and appliances from another duty station in Europe*
- *Building Coordinator Program*
- *Construction Projects*

Email on-post housing at : usarmy.wiesbaden.imcom.list.hsg-information@mail.mil

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Newman Village housing kitchen and living room design